



**Urban Academy Charter School
School Board Meeting
February 24, 2020
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

MINUTES

Board Members:	Ex-Officio Members:	Advisory Members:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Jensen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mongsher Ly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis Brown-Pena
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tamara Mattison		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ralph Elliott
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fong Lor		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Smith		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caley Long		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yu Yin Liao		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ying Thao		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ronsoie Xiong		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chao Yang		

Staff and Guests Attending:

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Meeting called to order by Melissa Jensen, Board Chair at 6:03 PM

Acceptance of Agenda

Corrections made: none

Board Motion: Approve the agenda

Board Member motioning to approving agenda: Lor

Board Member seconding the motion: Mattison

Discussion: none

Unanimously approved

Conflict of Interest

None to report

Approval of January 27, 2020 Minutes

Board Motion: to approve the minutes

Board Member motioning to approve the minutes: Xiong

Board Member seconding the motion: Smith

Discussion: none

Unanimously approved

Board Member Reports/Ex-Officio Member Presentations:

Board Chair, Melissa Jensen: nothing new to report

Board Finance Chair, Tamara Mattison: nothing new to report; review last month's Financial Snapshot for details

Superintendent, Dr. Ly:

ADMINISTRATION DUTIES:

- Big thank you to Urban's Sunshine Committee for providing the board with dinner and beautiful cards from the students!
- Our 1.04 policy on admissions has been reviewed by Urban's attorney and sent to NEO for submission to MDE; Ronnie Xiong has also posted the revised policy on Urban's website. We have not received any specific feedback back from MDE on the revised policy, so at this time, we are considering the changes as in compliance.

OPERATIONS:

- UA is still actively hiring for FTE teachers in Gym and Health Studies, Social Studies, Math, English and Technology to support our expansion into 7th and 8th grade; we are also looking for General Education teachers to support any staffing changes that may occur at end of school year; job market has been tight for teachers so we may need to request variances to allow other teachers at Urban to teach different subjects; MDE has generally granted these variances
- New facility is nearly finished; the framing is fully up and all fixtures are in. Painting is set to occur this week. Dr. Ly will be holding a walk-through for staff on Feb 28. Urban projects an open date of late March/early April 2020. The cafeteria and front office should be operational before then.
- Spring break is March 30 – April 3, 2020
- Dr. Ly has been receiving inquiries from many education professionals and surrounding universities on student teaching opportunities at UA. Many Masters students have been interested from across the country, including Ivy League institutions. Dr Ly has also received many requests from principals and superintendents who need to complete their supervision hours. At this time, Urban has not had the capacity to provide the 360 hours of supervision they need for licensure, due to the expansion buildout.
- Budget for next school year is in the works. We currently have a \$250K fund balance, and even after setting aside \$150K of that for our tech build-out, we will still have a very healthy balance for next year.
- Urban has a technology carry-over from last year of \$45,000 that will help support the tech buildout for the new and existing building. We will be switching to Xfinity's phone and communications system, which will require new wiring. We will also be implementing new security cameras, phone system, and security for the entire Urban campus as part of that buildout.
- Possibly Dr. Ly will be requesting the board allocate funds to purchase additional Chrome Books for teachers and students. Computers in the current lab are reaching their end lives and may need to be upgraded as well to Chrome Books. Approximately \$10,000 may be requested at next meeting.

ACADEMICS:

- Spring testing season underway and students are preparing for MAP and MCA tests.
- Urban has a contract for Reading Corps now to complement our current Math Corps programming. Our pilot Pre-K Reading Corps program has done extremely well per feedback from administrators.

COMMUNITY:

- 4-6 graders visited BizTown and learned more about the business world and finances
- The Minnesota Vikings sent Urban two large boxes full of flag football equipment, including helmets and shoulder pads for 36 kids
- We also received a grant from the Minnesota Twins to take students to a baseball game; any remaining money from the \$700 can be used to purchase school supplies
- Securian continues to host weekly tennis lessons with our students

BOARD:

- Yuyin Liao and Ying Thao are up for re-election to the board; Ms. Liao has expressed her interest in staying on the board for another term. Dr. Ly will connect with Ying about her interest in staying on the board as a parent representative. We comply with board member guidelines and the need for a parent rep, as Ronsoie Xiong's children attend UA.
- Rod Haenke will attend next month's board meeting to complete the annual board certification training session.
- Mr. Tony will also be providing an academic update to the board at our next meeting.

Motion: to approve the member reports

Board member motioning to approve the reports: Smith

Board member seconding the motion: Xiong

Discussion: none

Unanimously approved

Board Consent Agenda:

Motion: to approve the board consent agenda

Board member motioning to approve the board consent agenda: Long

Board member seconding the motion: Lor

Discussion: none

Unanimously approved

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Open Public Comments (Limited to 2 minutes)

- None

Board Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:27 PM

Board Member motioning to approve to adjourn the meeting: Lor

Board member seconding the motion: Xiong

Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM

Next board meeting March 17, 2020